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ABSTRACT

The City of Washington, D.C., with federal funding, declared war on one of the city's most pressing problems--rats. The War on Rats Program, in conjunction with Operation Clean Sweep, made a city-wide survey of rat infestations and recorded the areas of heavy rat infestation. After the problem areas had been identified, community organizations were asked for assistance in developing local support and motivating neighborhood residents to action. A massive public education program began. Using the Ratmobile, school assemblies, the Block program and posters, the public was informed of the various procedures and techniques that would help eliminate or reduce the neighborhood rat population. These included food source and harborage removal, solid waste collection, baiting activities, and the repair or removal of unsanitary buildings. This 1972 report also includes a program for developing environmental health assistants designed by the Washington Technical Institute. The report concludes with statistical tables and graphs dealing with such topics as financial reports, rat bait and bait boxes utilized, a comparative study of major deficiencies, field acivities, and rat control. (BT)

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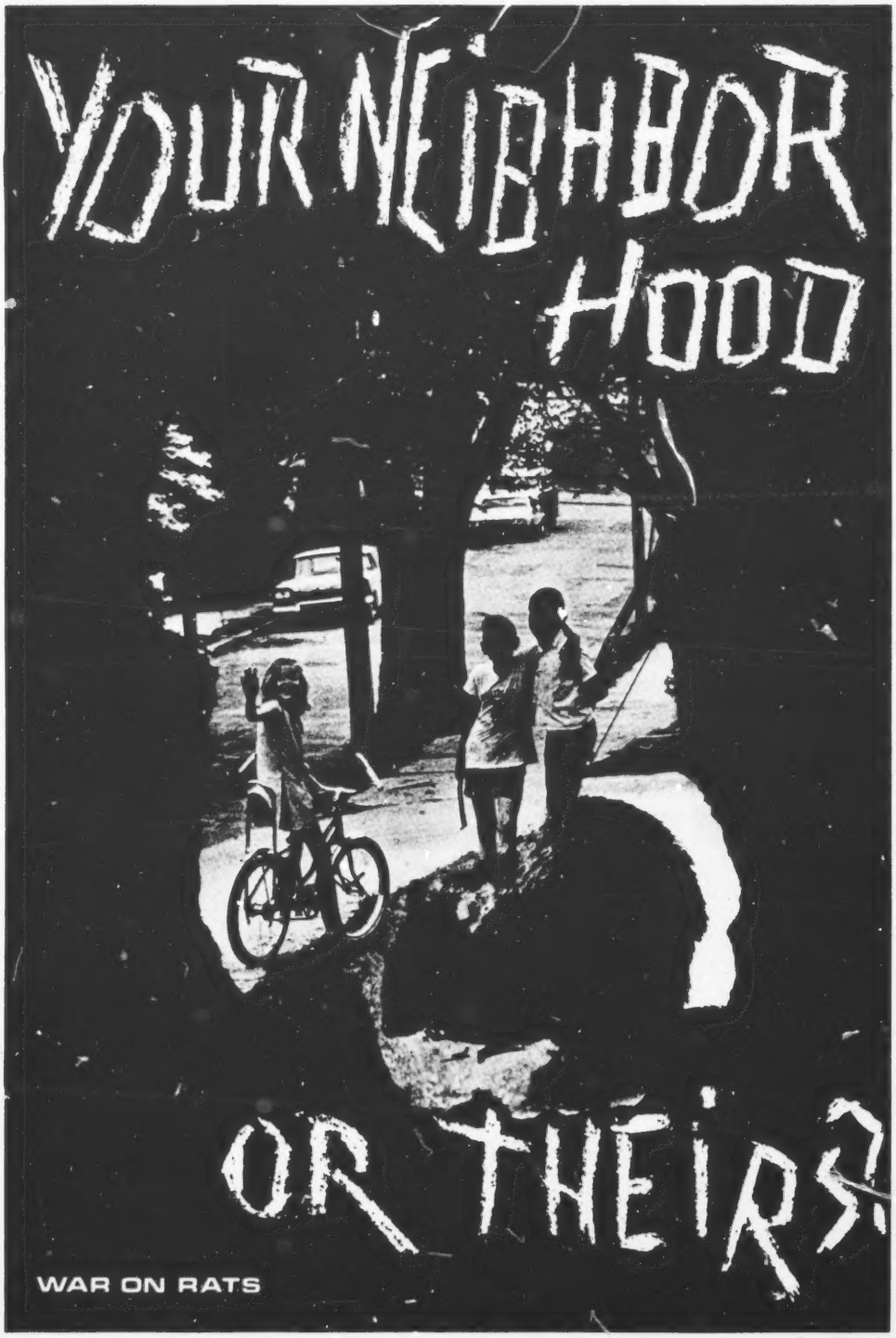
A Project of the District of Columbia
- Department of Environmental Services
- Department of Economic Development

WAR ON RATS

1972 progress report

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

SE 016 963



DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

RATS DESTROY PROPERTY!

WAR ON RATS

1972 progress report

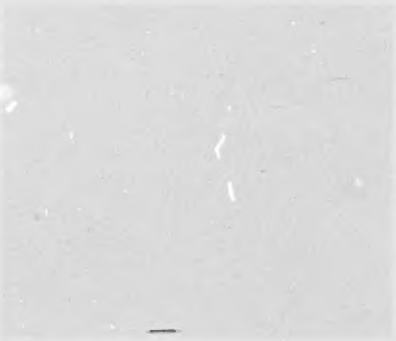
"Rats can be eliminated if everyone cooperates. We are counting on you to do your part."

Mayor Walter E. Washington
July, 1969

A PROJECT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Department of Environmental Services, James P. Alexander, Director
Department of Economic Development, Julian Dugas, Director

Project Director
James E. Murphy
Department of Environmental Service



A program supported by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, under provisions of the Public Health Service Act, Section 314-e, approved July 1, 1968.

YOUR STREET
OR THEIRS?
WAR ON RATS

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DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

LET'S MAKE OURS A RAT FREE COMMUNITY!

INTRODUCTION

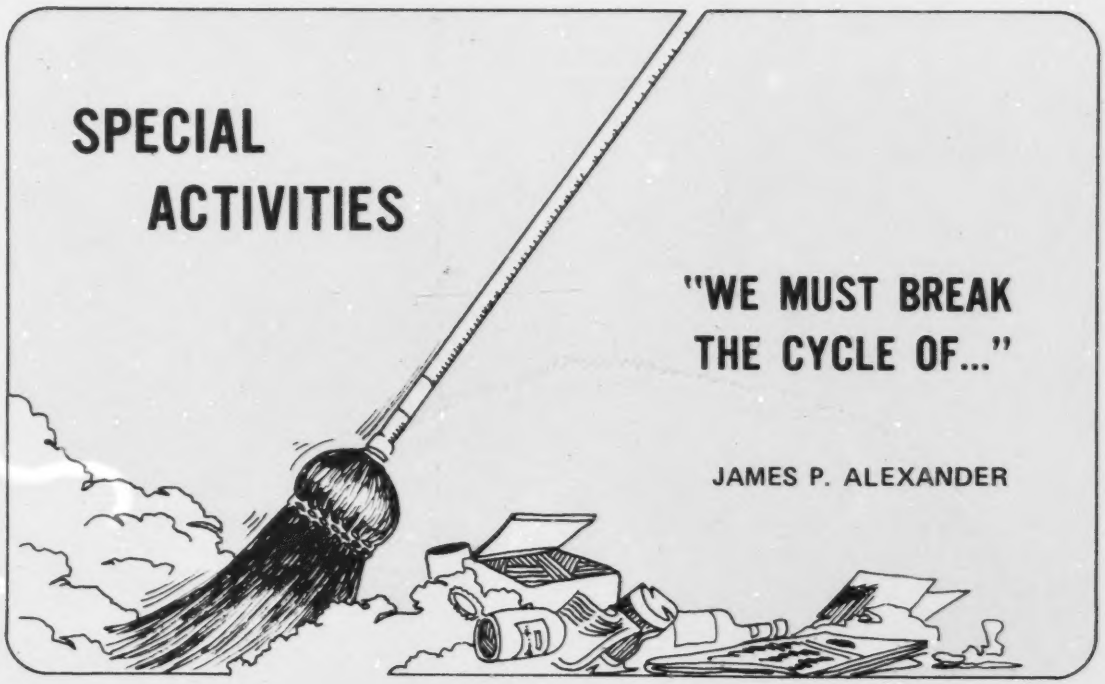
DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

The removal of food sources is the surest and easiest way to get rid of rats. It is as simple as **"NO FOOD – NO RATS."** You can speed up the process if you will place rat baits at the same time that you remove the food sources. Protect your food from rats, put all of your garbage and refuse in tightly covered cans, clean-up all scraps left from feeding the dog, clean-up after the dog, clean-up all rubbish in the yard and then when all the food is gone offer the rat a meal of poison bait. This is the effective way of eliminating rats.

Rats will eat anything that you eat and lots of other things besides. The crumbs left from your table or from the dog's dish; scraps left from feeding the birds; bits of food left in wrappings, tin cans or milk containers; a discarded apple core or a half eaten sandwich; a chicken bone or food in your cupboard; all these, and more feed the rat colonies. Do your share; put all garbage and refuse where rats cannot reach them. **STARVE A RAT TODAY.**

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY ?

PUT ALL WASTES IN TIGHTLY COVERED CONTAINERS!



OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

In late July 1971 the Department of Environmental Services was organized by merging the Directorate of Environmental Health and the Department of Sanitary Engineering. In announcing the new agency, Mayor Walter E. Washington said: *"We are pulling together people who should be working on one team, pooling capability, equipment and manpower so that we can achieve maximum effectiveness from the resources we have to deal with environmental problems."* Early in August, James Alexander, Director of Environmental Services, announced the launching of Operation Clean Sweep as *"the first step in Washington's effort to become the cleanest – most beautiful – city in the nation."*

Operation Clean Sweep goals were:

- removal of the accumulated refuse and debris from streets, alleys, vacant lots and abandoned buildings
- removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles and major components
- cleaning and barricading vacant buildings
- removal of weeds and brush from vacant lots
- cleaning and flushing streets and alleys
- development of an information program that would motivate the public to assist in the furtherance of the operation
- encouragement of owners of multi-family dwellings to support the operation by increased removal of refuse, debris and unwanted articles
- increase in the enforcement of anti-litter and anti-dumping laws
- increase in citations for abandoned vehicles.

The **War on Rats** field staff participated throughout the Clean Sweep Operation from the middle of August through the end of October. As the operation moved from one Service Area to another the Housing Inspectors, Housing Aides and Health Education Aides preceeded the clean-up activities by calling upon the householders in a vast motivation program. An attempt was made to reach as many householders as possible at least a week in advance of the clean-up crews. In excess of 100,000 homes throughout the city were visited during this period. The **War on Rats** Sanitarians assisted in enforcement efforts during the entire operation. Generous use was made of the **War on Rats** mobile public address system and related literature under the guidance of the Health Educators.

Operation Clean Sweep was an outstanding success throughout the city during this eleven week period. More than 25,000 tons of trash and debris were removed over and above the routine collection service. More than 2,200 abandoned vehicles were hauled away. Thousands of premises were cleaned. Operation Clean Sweep also served as a fire prevention program with a significant impact on the reduction of trash and trash-related fires. Numerous residents of the central city commented that it had been many years since their areas had been as clean.

CITY-WIDE SURVEY OF RAT INFESTATIONS

A city-wide survey of rat infestations was made by the **War on Rats** program in conjunction with Operation Clean Sweep. The sample survey was conducted in each of the nine service areas with which the city is divided, excepting Service Area 6, one week after Operation Clean Sweep had removed accumulated solid wastes from alleys, yards and vacant lots. The sample survey was not done in the **War on Rats** target area, Service Area 6, until about four months after Operation Clean Sweep. Although sufficient data was available for this area it was decided that all areas should be sampled in the same manner to make the results comparable.

Two similar surveys had been previously conducted by the Vector Control Division of the D.C. Government, the latest in 1968.

Technical assistance in the determination of the size of sample and the procedure for selecting the squares to be surveyed was provided by the Research and Statistics Division of the Department of Human Resources. The total number of squares (city blocks) to be surveyed was determined to be 500, about a ten percent sample. This number was apportioned among the nine service areas in proportion to the actual number of squares in each area. The square numbers in each service area were arranged numerically and the required number of squares was selected using random number tables. In this way the survey results were not only applicable to the city as a whole but also to each service area.

The purpose of the survey was to determine by squares for the city as a whole and for each service area:

- rat infestations
- availability of food or harborage, or both, where rats were not present
- predominant occupancy whether residential, commercial or vacant
- a subjective opinion as to the exterior sanitary conditions.

The same two-member teams made the entire survey. Indoctrination of staff in use of the survey form preceeded field activities. Surveys were started one week following the Clean Sweep Operation and each surveyor worked the assigned squares alone. A supervisor made a limited

number of field checks. Forms were preaddressed for the selected squares and service area maps were provided. This was an exterior survey only. Many householders and businessmen became willing assistants to the surveyors due to the motivation of Operation Clean Sweep.

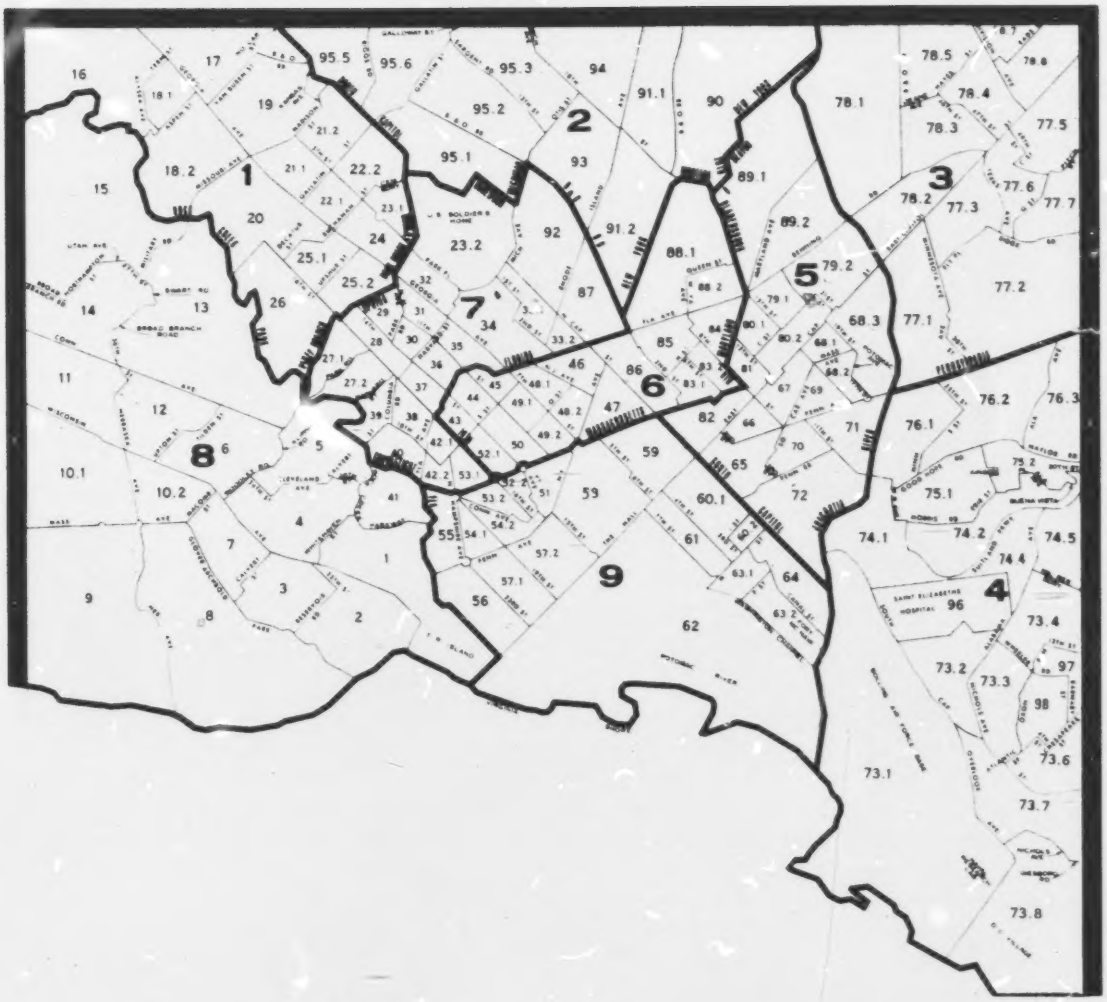
Evidence of rats either by sighting or by other active rat signs on any premises in the square was sufficient to indicate that the square was positive for rat infestation. It was assumed that if rats were present that food and harborage were available. When no active rat signs were found the availability of food and harborage, or both, was recorded. The square was classified by major use either residential, commercial or vacant land, or a combination of these uses. The final item recorded was the surveyors impression of the general sanitary condition of the square.

For the city as a whole the survey showed that of the reported squares 39% (195 out of 500) had rat infestations. Another 32% (161) of the squares had potential problems with food or harborage available to rats. The remaining 29% (144) of the squares were found to be in good sanitary condition with no rats or conditions conducive to rats. The rate of rat infestation varied from a low of 2% (2 of 101) of the squares surveyed in Service Area 8 to a high of 77% (33 of 43) of the squares surveyed in Service Area 6 (**War on Rats** target area). Of the 355 squares found to have few or no sanitation problems, only 19% (68) had rat infestations. On the other hand of the 145 squares that had a moderate number or many sanitation problems, 88% (127) had rat infestations. Of all the squares surveyed, 75% (379) were predominantly residential, 19% (93) predominantly commercial and 6% (28) predominantly vacant land. Rat infestations were heaviest in the residential areas with 46% of the squares infested. Commercial areas had 17% of the squares infested while the vacant land had 14% infested. (See Table 1)

TABLE 1
"RAT INFESTATION SURVEY – 1971" by Service Area

Service Area Number	Total Squares Sampled	Rat Infestation			Sanitary Conditions		Predominant Land Use		
		Rats Present	No rats but food and/or harborage	No rats, food or harborage	Good	Fair or Poor	Residential	Commercial	Vacant Land
1	62	23	25	14	31	31	53	4	5
2	57	8	25	24	51	6	41	16	0
3	52	27	7	18	41	11	45	2	5
4	50	37	6	7	37	13	47	2	1
5	45	30	1	14	16	29	30	14	1
6	43	33	3	7	13	30	34	7	2
7	44	31	7	6	24	20	41	3	0
8	101	2	68	31	100	1	85	7	9
9	46	4	19	23	42	4	3	38	5
TOTAL	500	195	161	144	355	145	379	93	28
		39%	32%	29%	71%	29%	75%	19%	6%

INFESTATIONS BY SQUARES 1971 SURVEY



DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

A HOME WITHOUT RATS IS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE!

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, MOTIVATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION

THE RATMOBILE

The **RATMOBILE** is a unique environmental health educational trailer that has proven to be successful by itself, as well as when used in combination with other motivational methods to carry the program to the community. It is most valuable in implementing the Community Organization functions of the project and in the delivery of services to local areas and residents.

Originally the **RATMOBILE** was a thirty-five foot Civil Defense trailer borrowed on condition that it would always be available for use as a first aid station in times of emergencies, or during local or national functions such as conventions, marches, demonstrations and the like.

Complete refurbishing transformed the trailer into a very attractive unit. The outside was decorated with red and white stripes, and the inside was painted in warm pastel shades. Its security was increased in order to reduce vandalism when it was unattended at nights and weekends. A motor generator was added to furnish power when it was not readily available.

Special attention was given to selection of staff for this unit. Health Education or Housing Aides have been used for the most part to carry out the day-to-day operations. Because the **RATMOBILE** was one of the key operations in the **War on Rats** Program, it was very important that these individuals be selected on the basis of maturity, judgement, and personality, and given special training in rat control, environmental health, and group handling techniques. The staff must also be conscientious, dependable, and amiable under the most trying human relationships.

Logistical limitations involving transportation of the unit itself, provision of telephone service, and power for light, heating or air conditioning, made it imperative to select sites carefully. For the most part staging has been limited to two weeks and preferably to one month. A notable exception was use of the unit on the Washington Monument grounds during Earth Day Celebrations in 1970 and 1972. Over 50,000 persons have visited the **RATMOBILE** in less than three years of operation. This is significant since the unit can only hold, at one time, about thirty-five persons in addition to two staff members.

Because of the agreement that the trailer be maintained for readiness in the event of emergencies, exhibits had to be portable. Folding cases provided the added advantage of making these exhibits available for use at meetings where the **RATMOBILE** could not reach groups. The interior walls were lined with posters, blown up photographs, and literature. Literature and promotional handouts were displayed on tables and desks. Materials ranged from coloring books and buttons for children to instructions on rat control methods and automobile litter bags for adults. An automatic silent slide projector focused toward the front end of the trailer projected pictures varied to meet the needs of the particular group, and taking into consideration neighborhood problems and solutions.

In fact, the **RATMOBILE** served communities in many ways other than for its chief goal of providing information and motivation for the **War on Rats** Program. Neighbors sought assistance from the staff on their general environmental problems. Rat bait and instructions for its use were available to the public. Thousands of anti-litter bags were distributed to visitors, and during a sanitation strike citizens were provided plastic trash can liners.

The exhibits were changed or modified from time to time, but they generally followed the same themes. Exhibit #1 pictures conditions found in a deteriorating neighborhood – abandoned cars, overturned refuse can feeding rats, discarded appliances and the like as contrasted with control measures – ratproofing, cleaning up scraps left after the dog has eaten, and proper food and refuse storage.

Exhibit #2 deals with the nature and life of the rat, including the history of migrations, rats as carriers of diseases and spreaders of filth, and the damage caused by them. This exhibit includes stuffed rats and mice, actual samples of the damage they cause, and footprints, droppings and other rat signs.

Exhibit #3 shows common rat entries and ratproofing materials. It features utility entrances, wall vents, foundation holes, and tells how to use sheet metal, hardware cloth and concrete for ratproofing.

Exhibit #4 features mice and their control. Traps and simulated rodenticides are shown.

From September until the end of May the **RATMOBILE** was dedicated to serving the adults of tomorrow – the school children of today. Where possible it was located within easy walking distance of several schools, and arrangements were made so that each class could have a date and time for its exclusive use. Some classes visited with their own teachers while others were accompanied by a counselor or science teacher. Block clubs, scout troops and other organizations were welcomed and encouraged to visit the unit during its stay in the neighborhood. Walk-in visitors were always welcomed except when the limited capacity of the trailer was reached. A running commentary was provided by an attendant from the time groups entered until they left. Questions and discussion were welcomed at all times. Children were encouraged to take literature home for discussion with parents.

Whenever possible, visits of the **RATMOBILE** to schools were preceeded by special assembly programs in the schools, conducted by our associate staff members. Puppet shows, films and other visual aids were used, each designed for the age level of the audience. Coloring books were provided for the younger children. The visit to the unit reinforced these earlier exposures, and provided an opportunity for more one-to-one individual participation, discussion and questioning.

During the summer months (June, July and August), and sometimes during school holidays, the **RATMOBILE** was placed at key commercial locations such as supermarkets, shopping centers, bus transfer points, libraries, and office buildings. These locations attracted a wide variety of visitors and afforded opportunities for extending services throughout the total community.

In summary, this vehicle has served its original purposes well:

- to create an interest in the **War on Rats** program
- to educate
- to encourage discussion and answer questions
- to stimulate individuals to participate in the control of rats.

It has been a highly successful tool in all of these areas so that many expressions of praise have been received by the staff, and early objections by a few citizens who resented the presence of the **RATMOBILE** in their neighborhoods have disappeared.

The story it tells can be altered to meet the needs of the elementary school child or to satisfy adult curiosity. Although the unit has been used primarily in the **War on Rats** target area, it has been visited by persons from all areas of the city and all *"walks of life."* It has helped make many local community residents aware of rat problems and their responsibilities in rat control, and many citizens have been motivated to participate in and to support the project goals. Finally, it has provided a strong, continuous educational program in environmental health and sanitation – the kind of support necessary for a successful, long lasting community program.

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

PUT ALL WASTES IN TIGHTLY COVERED CONTAINERS!

POSTERS

Scattered through this report are some of the eleven posters that were developed and used by the **War on Rats** program during the past year. The posters in two sizes (11 x 16½ and 15½ x 22½ inches) were used throughout the target areas in store fronts, at meetings, and in the schools. One of the Health Education Aides working with the schools developed a series of lesson plans, one for each of the posters. The lesson plans provided teacher guidance not only for the classroom, but also for field trips and action by the students. A list of suggested materials that would be helpful was included. Some of these materials could be furnished by the schools, some by the pupils and some would come from the **War on Rats** project. A total of 11 schools are now using the posters, and the lesson plans have been used in 6 Junior High Schools.

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

NO FOOD — NO RATS!

BLOCK PROGRAM

Instead of trying to organize block programs as isolated entities, the **War on Rats** program has directed its motivational efforts towards already organized groups encouraging them to sponsor and provide leadership for the block programs needed in their areas. This means that the **War on Rats** efforts could be funneled through an on-going organization in a neighborhood rather than conducted on an isolated block by block basis. It provided some checks on the block leader, gave that person local support, and provided some assurance of continuity to the program. At the present time the **War on Rats** has the cooperation of 746 community organizations.

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

RAT BITES ARE DANGEROUS!

FOOD SOURCE AND HARBORAGE REMOVAL

Clean-up activities during the period of this report were largely centered around Operation Clean Sweep. All of the staff of the **War on Rats** project participated in that city-wide program. Operation Clean Sweep started in the Model Cities Area and proceeded Service Area by Service Area throughout the city. The **War on Rats** clean-up crews remained in the project area after Operation Clean Sweep had moved on and devoted their attention to particular trouble spots. Momentum generated by Operation Clean Sweep encouraged many householders to continue to discard extra large amounts of solid wastes. For some, the original clean-up had come and gone before they were able to get the accumulated wastes out for collection.

In addition to the Clean Sweep Operation which cleaned all of the 793 squares in the Model Cities Area, separate clean-up activities were provided in 89 squares. Some of this latter figure represents repeated clean-ups in a limited number of squares.

The **War on Rats** emphasizes that clean-up is a day-to-day function that should go on continuously throughout the year, that normal household wastes should be placed at the collection point for the regular bi-weekly collection service, that there is a collection service for large household items such as furniture and appliances, and that it is the householder's responsibility to keep his premises free of rubbish and unwanted items.

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION REPORT

The Solid Waste Disposal Regulation adopted June 29, 1971, became effective August 26, 1971. It established minimum standards for the storage, collection, transportation, and disposal of solid wastes within the District of Columbia. It also regulates the operations of the private solid waste collectors who provide services for commercial and those multiple residential premises not served by the District. Licenses were issued to 380 such collectors to operate a total of more than 750 vehicles within the District of Columbia. Two surveys have since been conducted in the **War on Rats** target area to evaluate the impact of the Solid Waste Disposal Regulation as it applies to premises not served by the public collection system. (See Table 2)

The first survey was conducted in the spring throughout the target area and covered only multi-unit residences. The survey revealed that 28% of the establishments could not or would not name the source of their collection service, a marked improvement over the figure of 50% who were unable to do so in 1971. It also revealed that 67% of the responding establishments were being served by licensed private collectors who provided at least twice-weekly collection service.

The second survey, late in the summer, covered the storage of solid wastes at liquor stores and their collection services. Eighty (80) stores were inspected and seventy-five (75) held contracts with licensed collectors. Ten (10) stores had inadequate storage facilities for the wastes they generated.

TABLE 2
SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SURVEYS

Total Number of Multi-unit Residences	250
Number of Unsatisfactory Interviews	70
Number of Satisfactory Interviews	180
Served by unlicensed collector	60 (33%)
Served by licensed collector	120 (67%)
Total Number of Liquor Stores Visited	80
Number served by licensed collectors	75
Number with adequate solid waste storage	70

BAITING ACTIVITIES

Guidelines for baiting activities for the **War on Rats** were revised, and more emphasis is being placed on eradication of rats on a square by square basis. Formerly the baiting program was directed toward killing rats on an area-wide basis. Unfortunately the staff was not large enough to maintain the baiting pressure that would completely eliminate rats in any portion of the area. The revised guidelines made necessary some staffing changes as well as policy and program alterations.

Red squill and the anti-coagulants continued to be the choice baits in the program. All red squill was dispensed as wrapped pellets about the size of an olive. The anti-coagulants were enclosed in pressed-board bait boxes. No baits were placed on any private premises without the knowledge and consent of the occupant. Supervision was increased to see that baits were properly placed and maintained. Health Education Aides were used to help the baiting crews deal with the local residents, and all **War on Rats** staff working in the area were made aware of the baiting activity in order that they might assist in the effort.

Knock-down baiting using red squill was carried out in 16 city squares and anti-coagulant baits were used in 463 squares during the period covered by this report. The above mentioned number of squares were baited from 4 to 7 times during that period, involving a total of approximately 18,940 premises. This figure also includes the total number of baitings. As a result of these activities, the number of premises in the Model Cities target area showing active exterior rat signs was reduced from 12.3% in the previous reporting period to 9.0% in this period. For the new target area the reduction was from 14% to 8.3% respectively.

Six rat bites were reported in the Model Cities target area as against seven during the previous period, and six rat bites were reported in the new target area for this period.

INSANITARY BUILDINGS

Insanitary buildings continue to create problems in the **War on Rats** target areas. Repair or removal of such buildings is slow for a number of reasons. Much of the area is scheduled for renewal and this process is slow. The removal of one or more vacant buildings in a series of row houses can create more problems than it solves. Suitable housing for those now living in insanitary buildings is not presently available. In addition, the Board for the Condemnation of Insanitary Buildings is not sufficiently funded to move ahead rapidly. Last year the Board condemned 124 buildings in the Model Cities area of which 34 were repaired and 31 were razed. During the period covered by this report the Board condemned 151 buildings in the same area of which 37 were repaired and 36 were razed. In the expanded project area the Board condemned an additional 58 buildings of which 19 were repaired and 13 were razed.

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

CLEAN UP AFTER DOGS!

MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING
(STAFF DEVELOPMENT)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANTS

Training programs tailored to meet the needs for manpower within the two participating Departments have continued in a classroom setting as well as in a special on-the-job setting.

Thirty-eight employees completed forty (40) or more hours of college credit work in a program designed by the Washington Technical Institute to meet the ever increasing needs of manpower in Environmental Health. Course credits were as follows:

Ecology I-IV	– 12
Solid Waste Management	– 3
Waste Water Technology	– 3
Air Pollution Controls	– 3
English	– 6
Technical Writing and Speech	– 6
Physical Science I & II	– 6
Food and Housing Sanitation	– 6
Hygiene	– 3
Work experience	– 6
TOTAL	– 54 credits

The intent of the above courses was to prepare our employees to be para-professional generalists in the field of Environmental Health.

In order to effectively combat the shortage of professional engineers and sanitarians in all areas of Environmental Health, Washington Technical Institute proposed to train Environmental Health Assistants who would work under the direct supervision of professional engineers and sanitarians.

Overall objectives of the Environmental Health Assistant program were to:

- provide technical training for employees from various ethnic groups residing in the District of Columbia who expressed an interest in the program, especially those who were working on the "**War on Rats**" project and other similar projects for the improvement of community health
- establish training in all areas of environmental control to meet the basic needs and requirements for beginning careers in governmental and private industries as Environmental Health Assistants
- up-date the technical and behavioral skills and abilities of employees who were undertrained, permitting them to pursue careers in environmental health
- relieve professional engineers and sanitarians from duties not requiring their level of expertise
- allow an increased entry of the para-professionals into the environmental health field with lateral mobility, where possible, with the end result being upward mobility for the trainee.

FOOD SANITATION TECHNICIANS

This program had two objectives: (1) to provide knowledge and skills at a level leading to upward mobility, and (2) to serve as an introductory curriculum for employees desirous of achieving certification in food sanitation.

Washington Technical Institute responded to the city's urgent need, which required the training of para-professionals in the area of food technology. A proposal was submitted for a one year academic training program to develop these much needed skills in food sanitation.

Secondary skill development objectives included basic English, routine data collection comprehension, and report writing, which would increase the overall understanding of food technology problems and provide methodologies for working out solutions.

This course was especially designed to aid the student in approaching the task of communicating through a serious concern with purpose and form. A clear grasp of one's intention and an awareness of appropriate and effective forms are the criteria by which one can wisely choose between alternatives in communication. These alternatives may be between one form of organization and another, between different patterns of development, between formal and informal styles, and/or between alternative usages in diction, grammar, and mechanics.

In the past, it was extremely unusual to locate and hire, at the lower technical levels, prospective Food Sanitarians with proper previous training.

Washington Technical Institute's goal was to provide career oriented trained personnel to both public and private sectors actively involved in food sanitation who had acquired many of the necessary skills and had demonstrated an awareness of their purpose.

Since the basic purpose is upward mobility, employees are actively encouraged to continue their training in appropriate educational institutions upon completion of the one year curriculum. It is the sincere belief of both Washington Technical Institute and the Environmental Health Administration that this program will create a desire and provide an incentive for employees to extend their schooling with a goal of steady advancement in an important profession.

THE ADVISORY GOVERNING BOARD

The Advisory Governing Board, a part of the Model Cities Commission, held all of its bimonthly meetings at the **War on Rats** headquarters. It consists of twenty-two members each elected from one of the twenty-two wards that make up the Model Cities Area, the original target area of the **War on Rats** programs. The purpose of the Board was to advise and assist the **War on Rats** project in adapting and carrying out its program in the community.

During Operation Clean Sweep, the Board recruited and directed a large number of volunteers in alerting and motivating the local residents regarding that project. Since the Board members individually were already well known in their wards, citizen response was immediate. Board members were also familiar with trouble spots and able to direct attention to these during the Operation.

Assistance was given the **War on Rats** in carrying out clean-up programs in the Model Cities Area. Board members were aware of the locations where such programs were needed and enlisted the services of local leaders and volunteers. Clean-up activities were coordinated in the **War on**

Rats headquarters depending on when trucks and crews were available. From early spring until late fall there was an almost constant program of clean-up activities. During the summer of 1971 the program cooperated with Operation Clean Sweep when most of the staff were diverted to the larger city-wide effort.

In working with the **War on Rats** the Board members became aware of many environmental problems in their community. As an elected body they took an active interest in seeking improvements in the area which resulted in an increase in needed services. Their influence was of considerable assistance to the **War on Rats** program. Members were paid a modest stipend for participating in Board activities.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

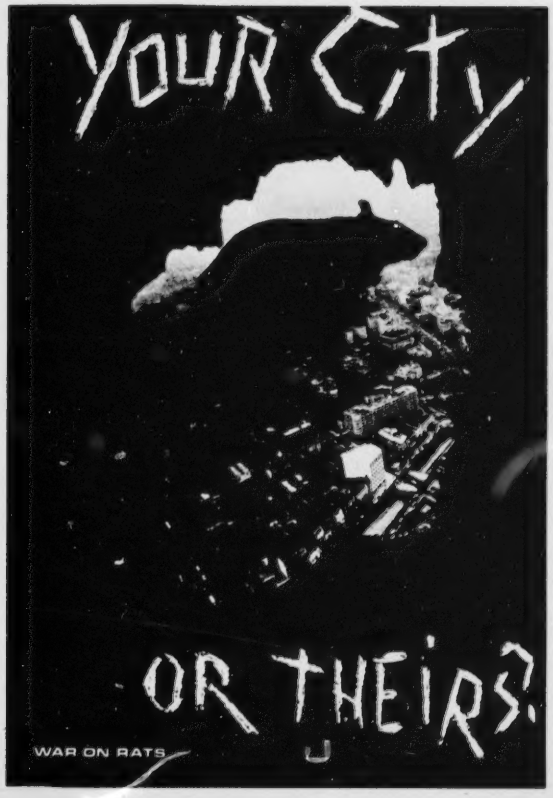
	1970	1971	1972
1 – Personnel Compensation & Benefit	$564,816	$ 780,092	$ 845,528
2 – Travel and Consultant Services	18,451	13,649	8,424
3 – Rental Space & Communication	15,275	20,419	21,492
4 – Printing	7,276	12,527	6,435
5 – Equipment and Supplies	60,847	56,876	49,035
6 – Model Cities Contract	22,000	22,000	20,515
7 – Indirect Cost	91,952	156,019	114,890
TOTAL	$780,617	$1,061,582	$1,066,319

RAT BAIT AND BAIT BOXES UTILIZED

DISTRIBUTED TO	AMOUNT USED		
	Anti-coagulant (lbs.)	Red Squill (lbs.)	Bait Boxes
War on Rats	7,778	2,224	16,800
Housing Division	10,590	1,026	—
Pride, Inc.	2,039	550	—
Vector Control Div.	5,908	2,477	—
Free to Public	2,067	1,662	500
TOTAL	28,382	7,939	17,300

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

RATS SPREAD DISEASE!



COMPARATIVE STATUS OF MAJOR DEFICIENCIES IN PERCENT				
Survey Items*	1969	1970	1971	1972
Exterior rat signs	47.7	18.2	12.3	9.0
Potential rat entries in structure	35.1	12.0	15.8	9.8
Unapproved refuse storage	80.0	67.0	49.5	56.0
Animal food available to rats	1.2	3.7	1.7	3.1
Abandoned vehicles	9.2	5.5	4.4	4.0
Discarded appliances	9.8	12.5	6.9	7.3
Lumber on ground	11.9	8.7	4.2	6.9
Other large rubbish	33.6	35.7	19.8	13.0
Dilapidated out-buildings	8.9	8.7	4.6	4.6
Dilapidated board fences and walls	1.8	1.0	0.6	4.0
Weeds and grass	13.4	15.7	13.1	12.0

*The following numbers were surveyed:
1969 – 21 squares and 336 premises
1970 – 25 squares and 400 premises
1971 – 30 squares and 480 premises
1972 – 116 squares and 1,856 premises

YOUR PARK
OR THEIRS?
WAR ON RATS

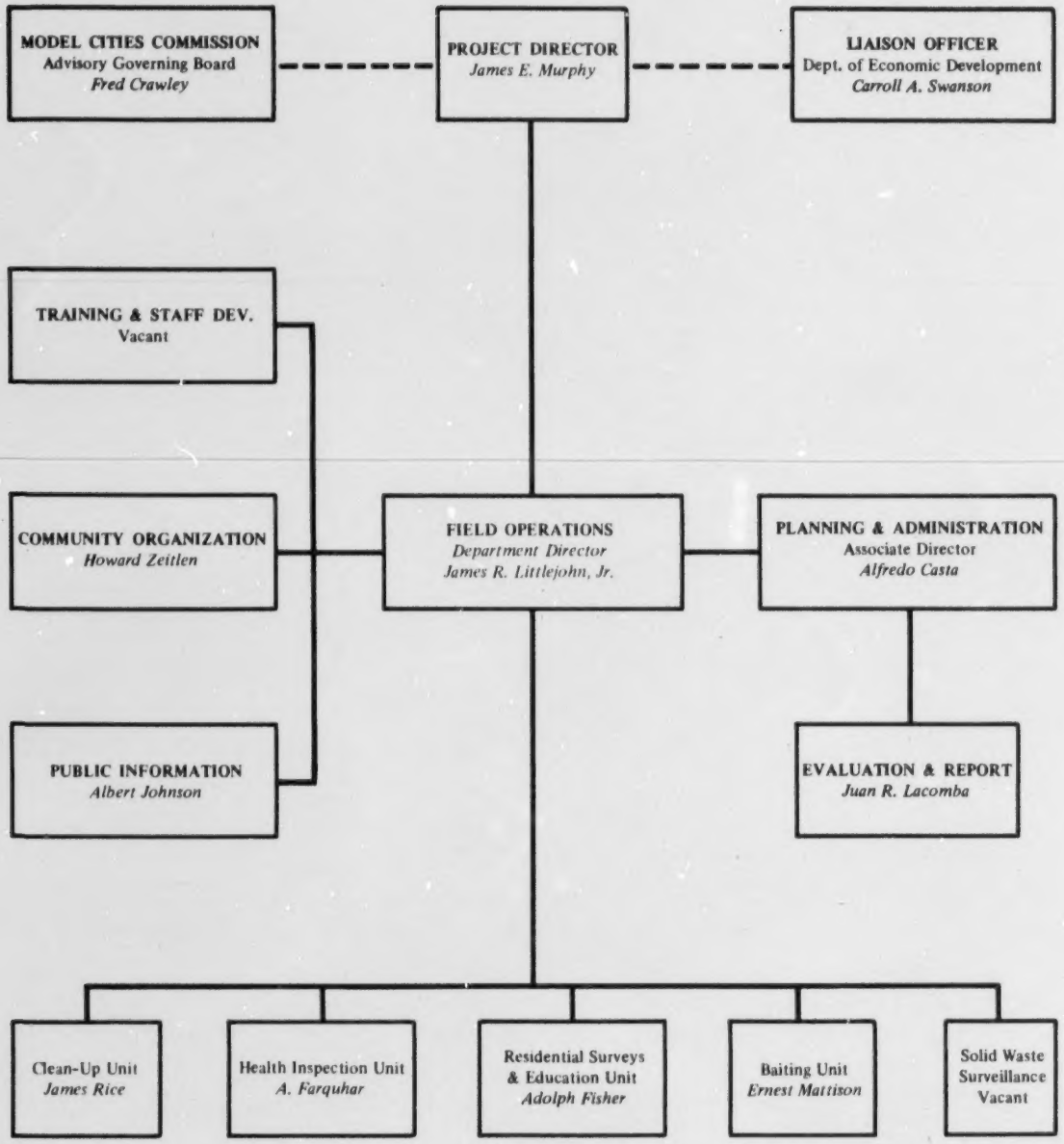
SOLID WASTE COLLECTION						
AGENCY	YEAR ENDING					
	4/1/71			4/1/72		
	Truck-Days	Man-Days	Cu. Yds.	Truck-Days	Man-Days	Cu. Yds.
D.C. Sanitation Div.						
Combined Collection	2,064	6,183	76,640			
Clean Streets & Yards	484	1,195	11,068	1,174		28,178
War on Rats						
Clean-up Crews	1,188	4,103	29,206	955	5,210	26,384
TOTAL	3,733	11,481	116,914	2,129	5,210	54,562

FIELD ACTIVITIES	
Type of Activity	Number of Actions
Residential	
Surveys	34,955
Interviews	16,778
Food Establishments	
Inspections	3,663
Notices served	748
Notices abated	463
Other premises and businesses	
Inspections	4,237
Notices served	704
Notices abated	689
Community Organization and Health Education	
Number of meetings	822
Total attendance	55,558
Ratmobile attendance	19,152

DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

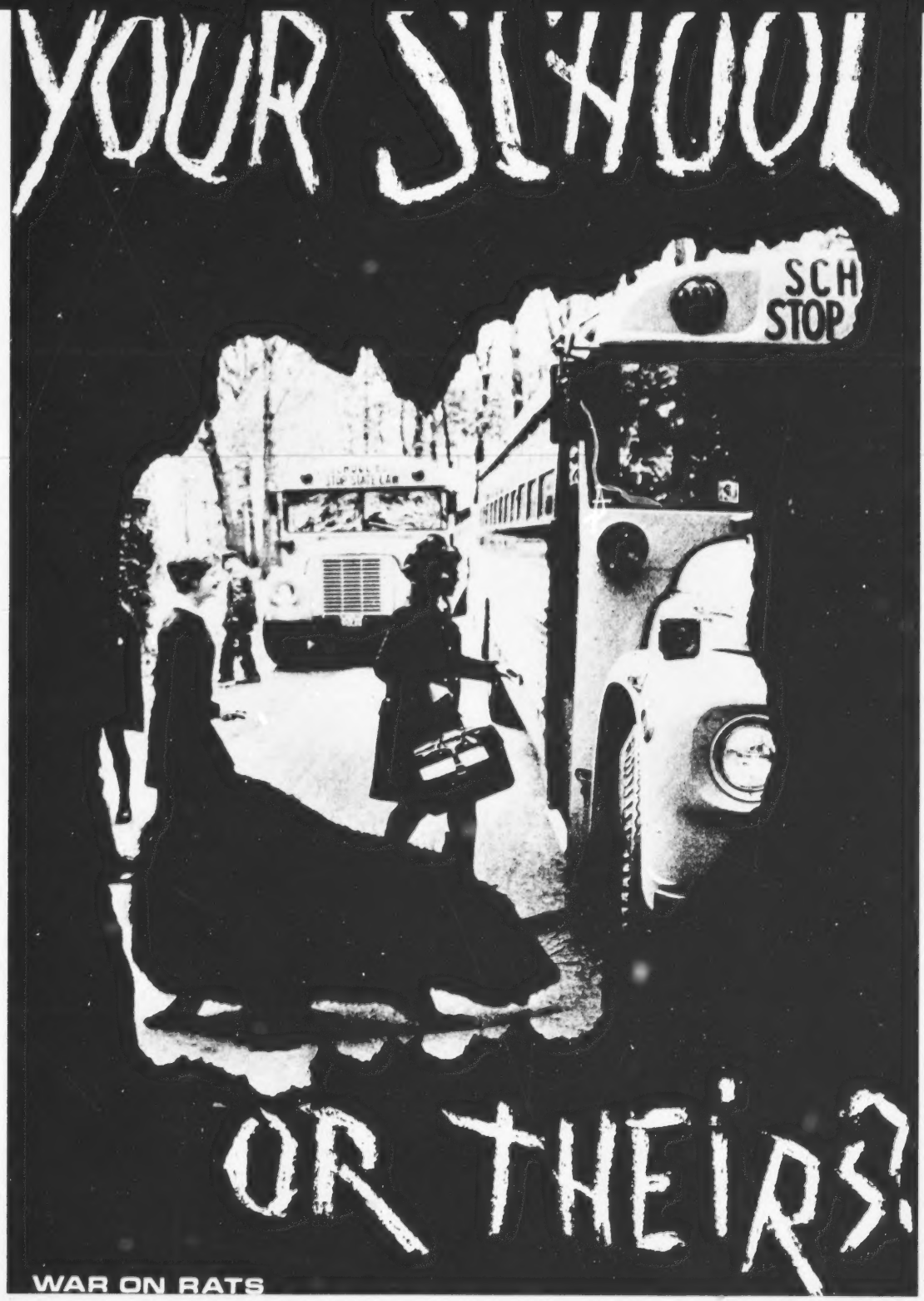
CLEAN YARDS BARE NO RATS!

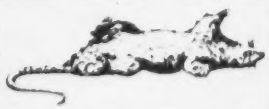
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

GET RID OF UNWANTED CARS BY CALLING "WAR ON RATS" AT 629-5447





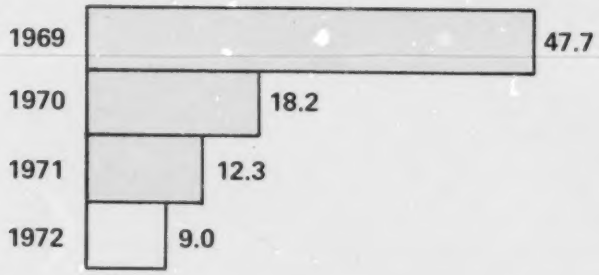
DID YOU STARVE A RAT TODAY?

LET'S MAKE OURS A RAT FREE COMMUNITY!

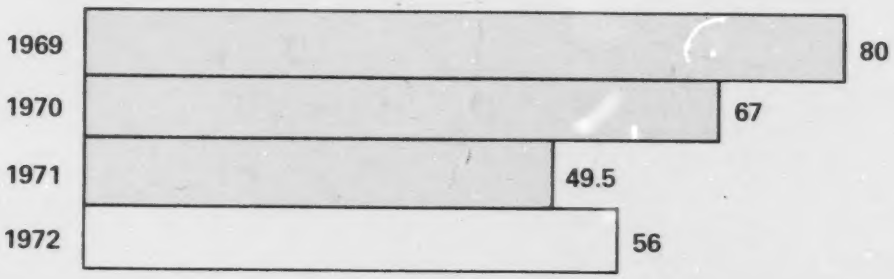
YOUR FOOD
OR THEIRS?
WAR ON RATS

RAT CONTROL*
Percentage of Premises Having Active Rat Signs or Causative Conditions

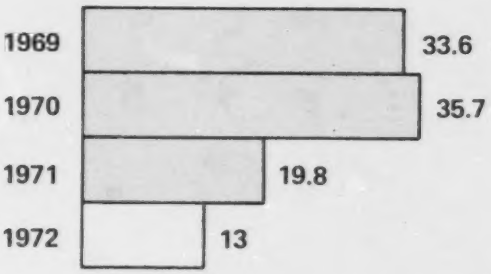
EXTERIOR RAT SIGNS



UNAPPROVED REFUSE STORAGE



LARGE RUBBISH
(RAT HARBORAGE)



*Based on figures from Fourth Evaluation Report of the Public Health Service.

YOUR LIFE
OR THEIRS?
WAR ON RATS